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Ong

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[54] **SOFT DOCUMENT HOLDER**

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Related U.S. Application Data

[63] Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 349,563, Dec. 5, 1994, Pat. No. 5,566,979.

[51] **Int. Cl.**[6] **B42D 1/00**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **281/47**; 281/21.1; 281/15.1; 281/28; 281/29

[58] **Field of Search** 281/15.1, 21.1, 281/28, 43, 45–47, 51, 29; 229/67.1–67.3

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A holder for soft-covered documents has first and second components that are both formed of sheetlike materials secured together. The first component forms one of a pair of document covers, either the front or the back cover, and a first attachment strip along an edge of that document cover. The first component also includes a flat, elongated document retaining strip that defines within its structure an elongated document slot. The slot receives some of the pages of a document therethrough such that some of the pages reside on one side of the document retaining strip while the remainder of the pages reside on the other side of the document retaining strip. The first component also includes a first elongated hinge that secures a first attachment strip of the first component to the document retaining strip. The second component forms the other cover and a second attachment strip that is delineated from the other cover by a second hinge. The two attachment strips reside in face-to-face relationship and are secured to each other throughout their lengths by some fastening means, such as a layer of adhesive or a fusion welded interface layer between the attachment strips.

14 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets

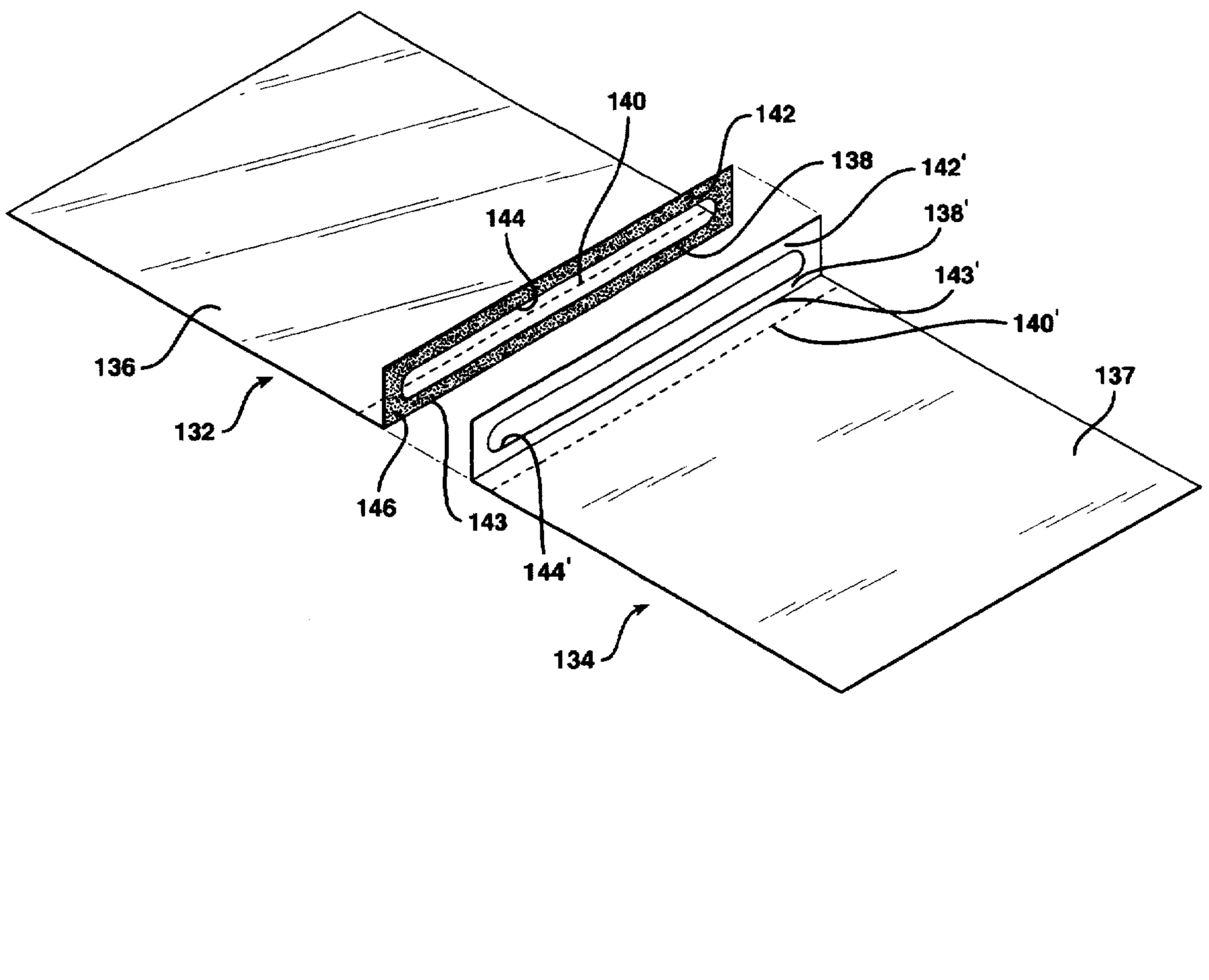
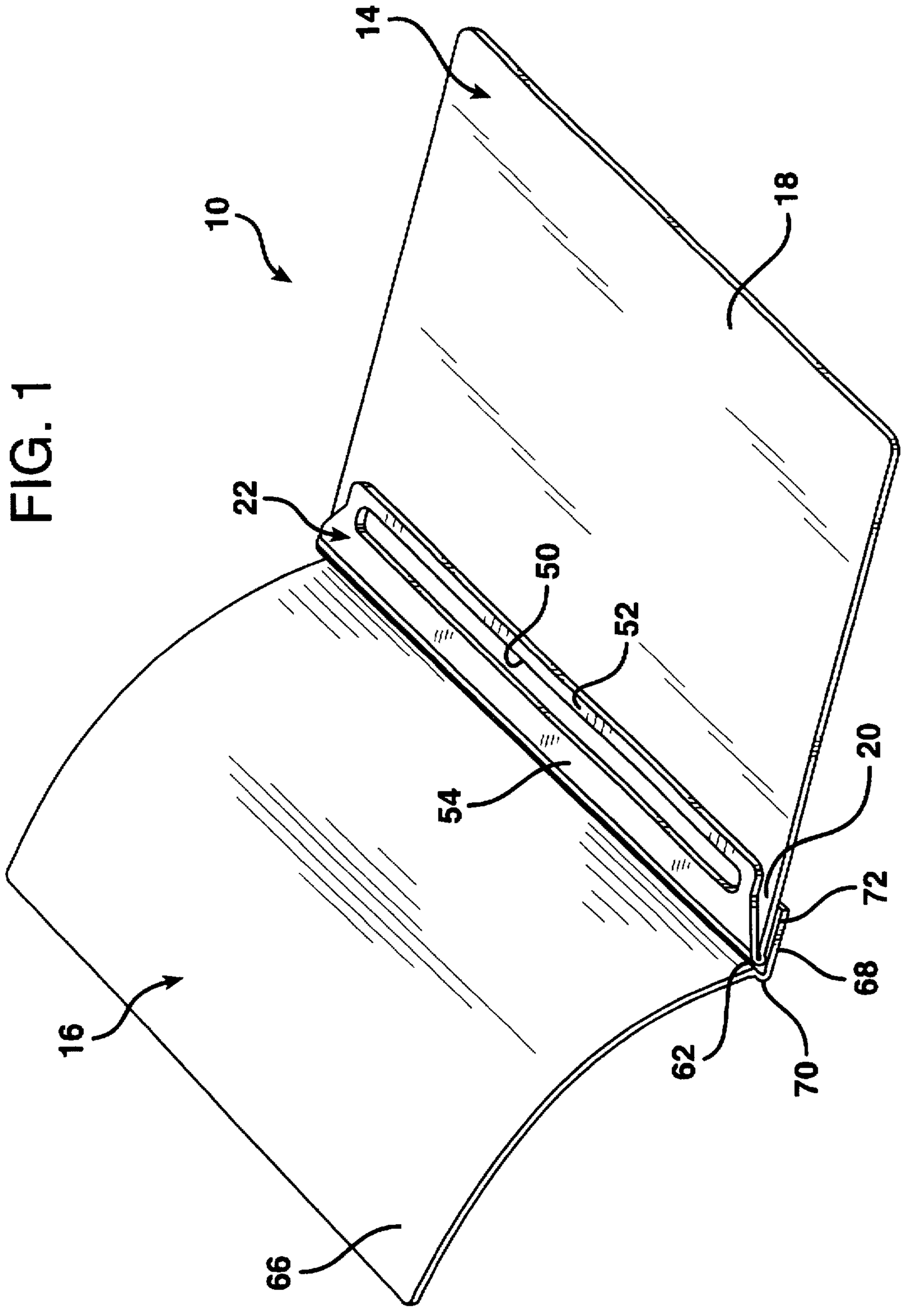


FIG. 1



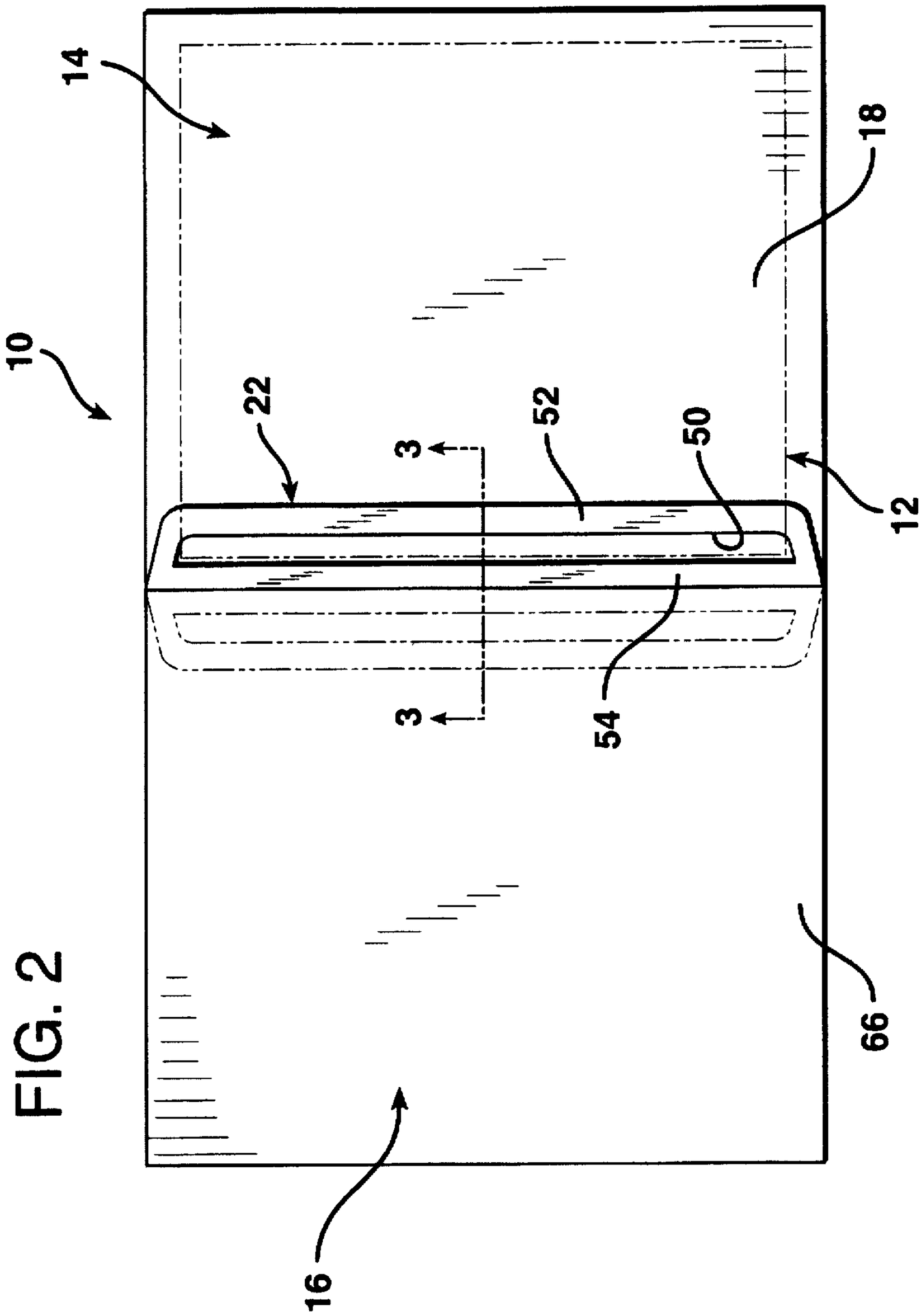


FIG. 2

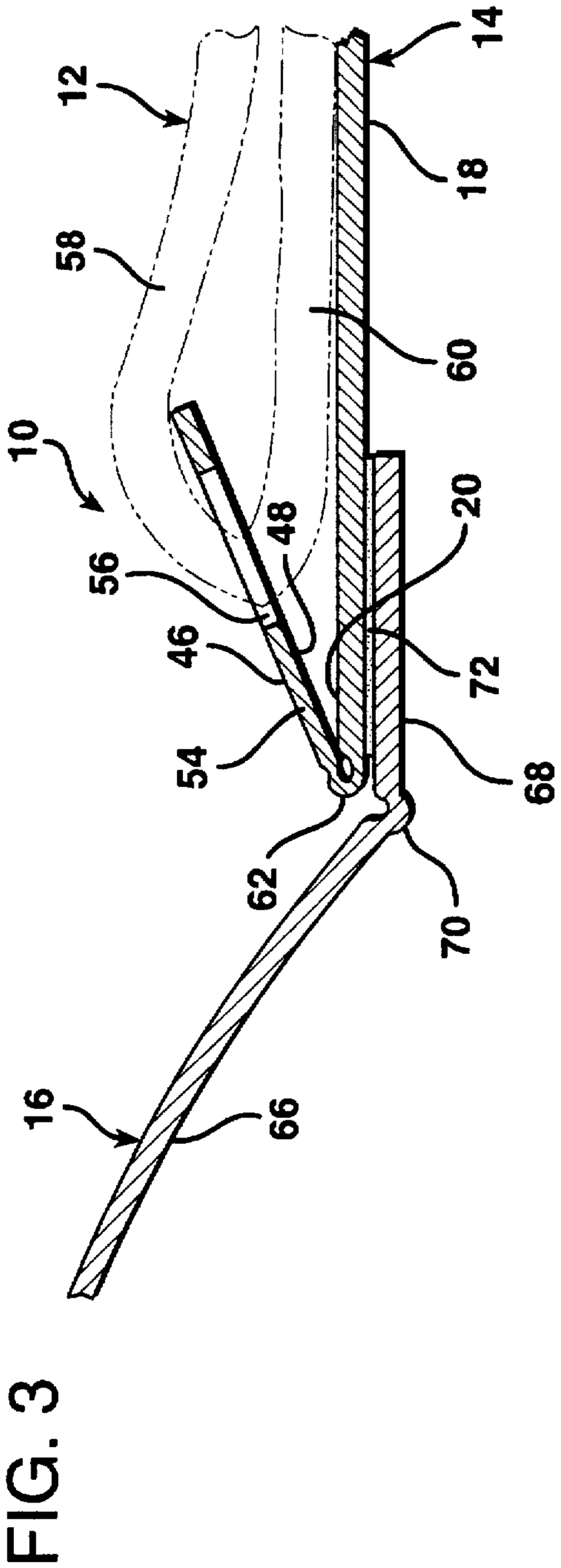

14
12
18
58
60
10
20
48
56
46
72
54
68
62
70
16
66

FIG. 3

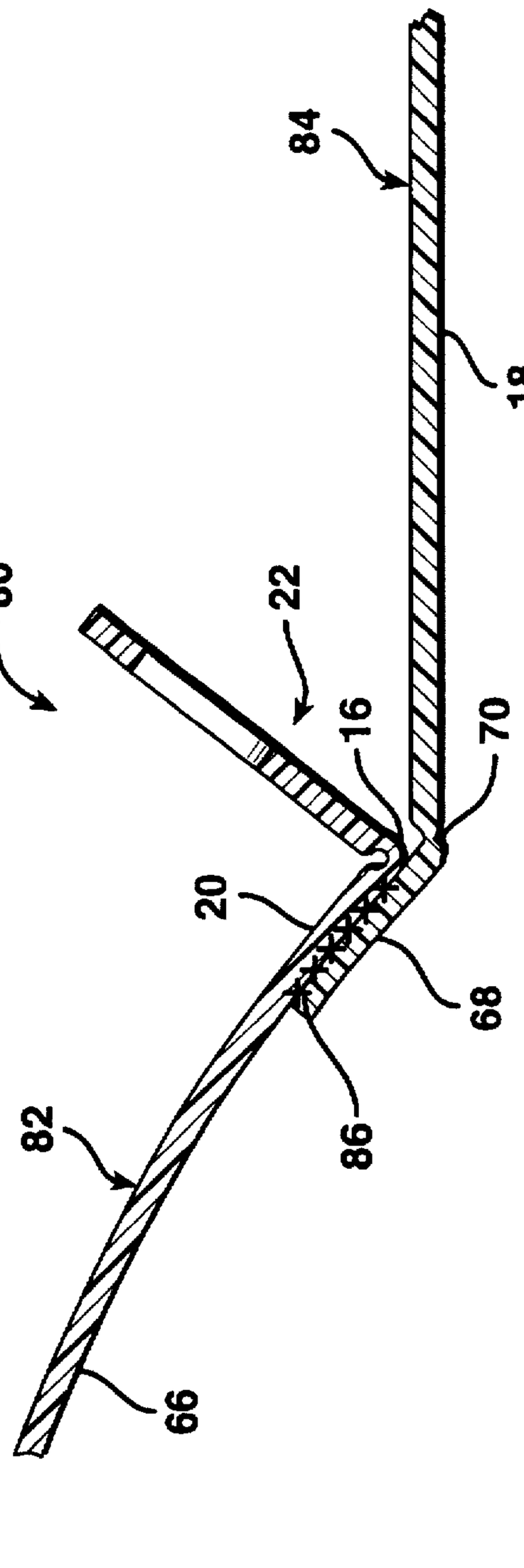

84
18
80
22
16
70
20
68
86
82
66

FIG. 4

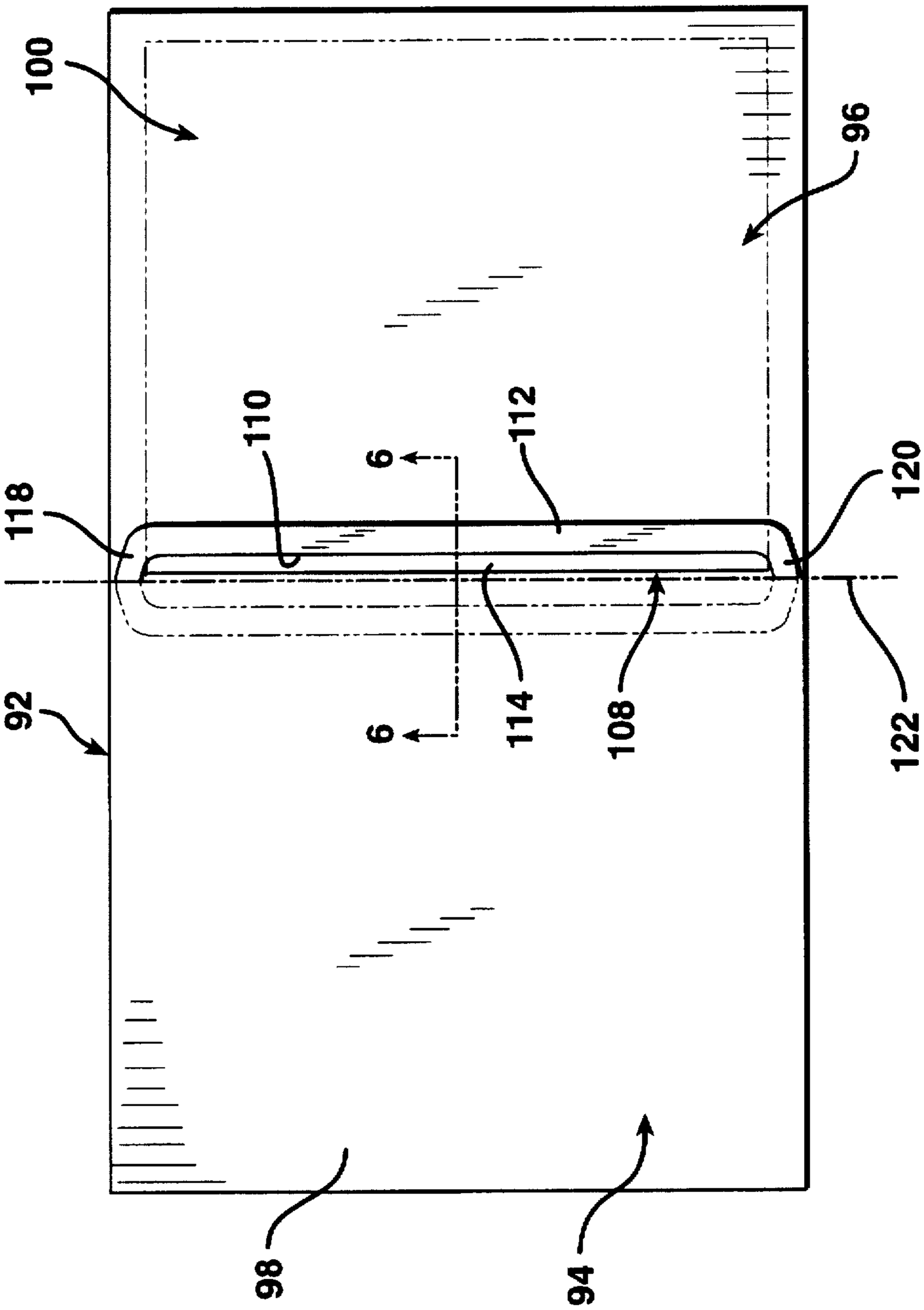


FIG. 5

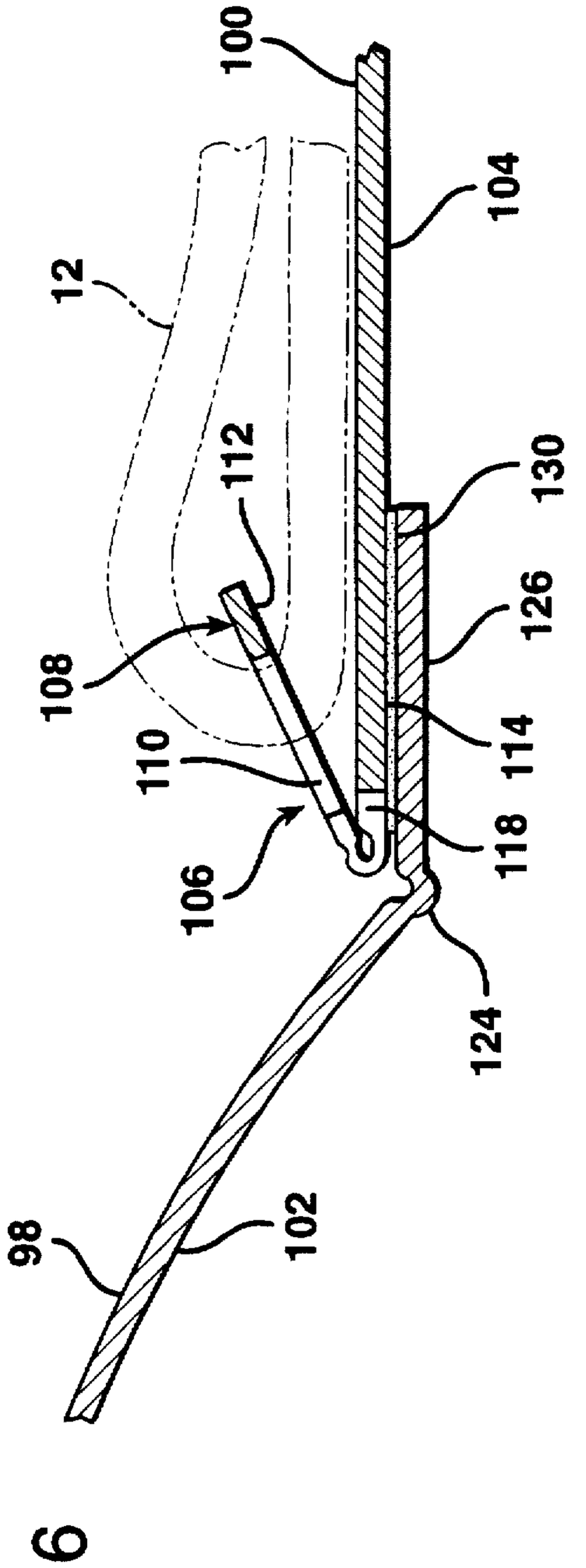

100
12
104
112
130
108
126
110
114
118
106
124
98
102

FIG. 6

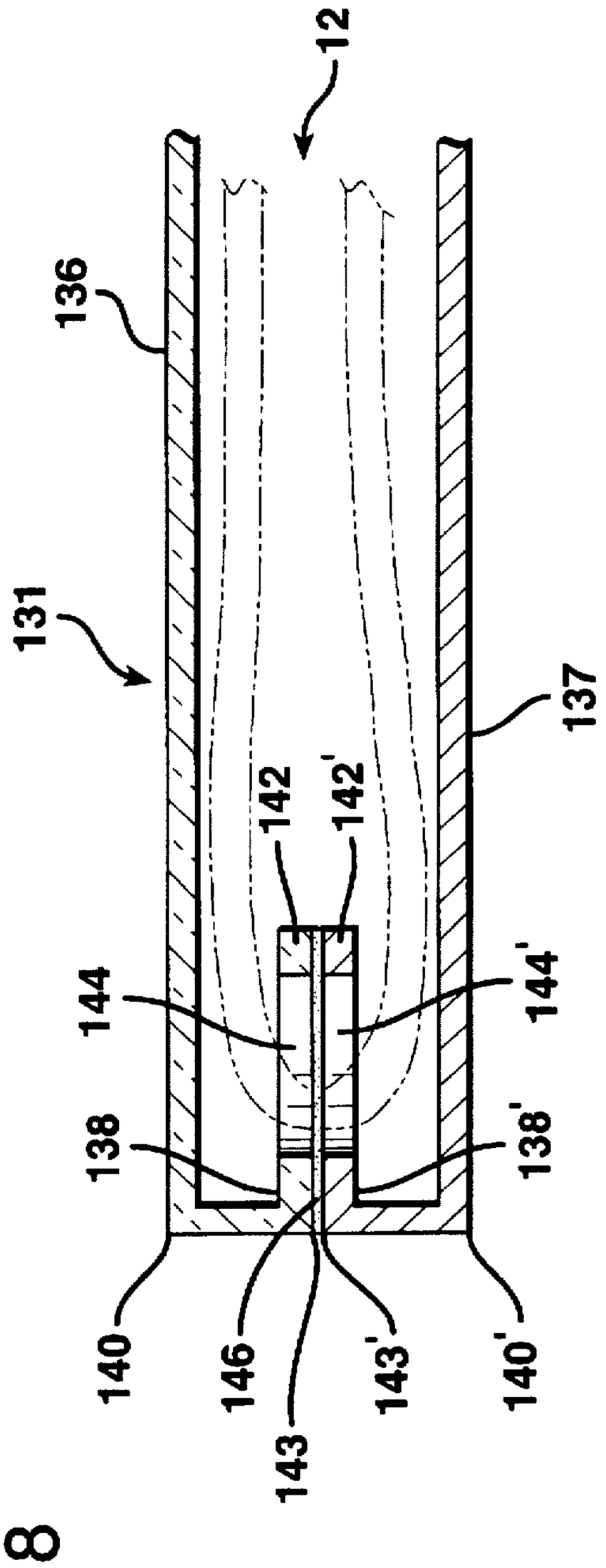

12
136
131
137
142
142'
144
144'
138
138'
140
146
143
143'
140'

FIG. 8

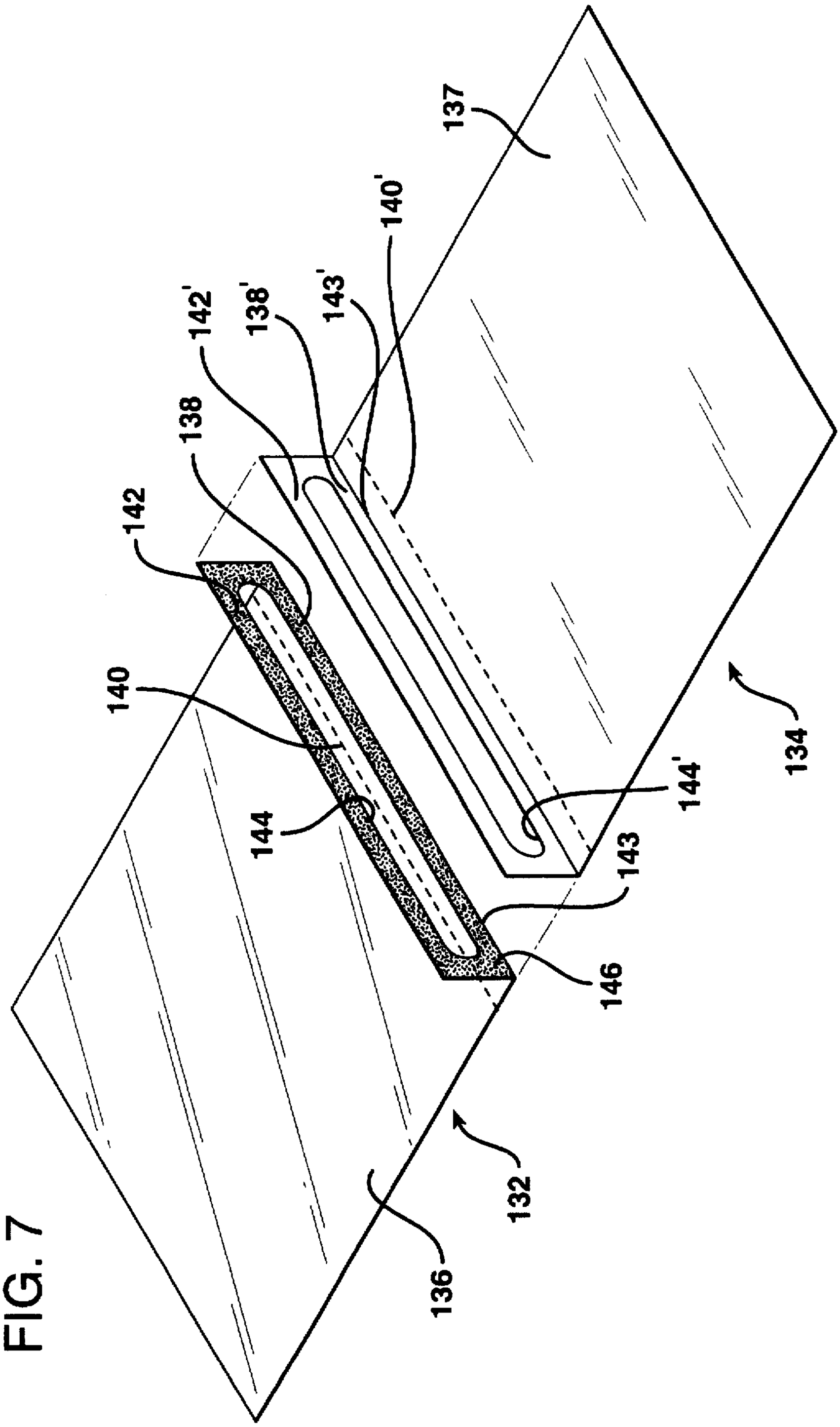


FIG. 7

SOFT DOCUMENT HOLDER

SPECIFICATION

The present application is a continuation in part of U.S. application Ser. No. 08/349,563 filed Dec. 5, 1994, now U.S. Pat. No. 5,566,979.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a folder for a soft-covered document having a plurality of pages.

2. Description of the Prior Art

Among the different types of office supplies available, folders are widely used for carrying numerous different types of documents. One very common type of folder which has a simple construction is formed of a sheet of stiff paper, card stock, plastic, or combination thereof, folded down its center to form a front cover and a back cover. Such a folder forms a protective jacket for papers to be carried. A conventional folder of this type may include only the front and back covers with no additional structure, although frequently the sheet forming the folder is configured to create pockets and sometimes reinforcing edges or margins on the inside surfaces of either the front cover, the back cover, or both.

While conventional folders of this type are perfectly adequate for carrying and protecting unbound papers of standard sizes, they have proven inadequate for carrying multipage soft-covered documents which themselves have front and back covers. Typically, such soft-covered documents are formed of a number of sheets of paper which are folded lengthwise to create two pages out of each sheet. The folded sheets are nested one inside another and bound along their central fold line by staples or adhesives to form a spine. Magazines are typically constructed in this manner as are different types of promotional brochures, business reports, catalogs, and other such documents.

Soft documents of this type cannot be conveniently carried in conventional folders. If multipage soft documents, such as magazines are carried loose between the front and back covers of a folder, they will often fall out of the folder. If they are positioned in pockets of the folder, they still will sometimes fall out of the folder, and in any event are rendered somewhat inaccessible since they must be removed from the pocket for perusal.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides a holder for a soft bound document which includes the front and back covers of a conventional document folder, but which also includes a document holder capable of receiving and capturing soft, bound documents, such as magazines and catalogues. The document holder retains the soft document within the confines of the covers, but allows the pages of the soft document to be completely opened without constraint.

The holder of the invention is formed of two component members. One of these members forms one of the document covers and also the slotted document holder. The other component member forms the opposing cover.

The first component member of the holder includes a first broad expense of cover material, a first narrow attachment region extending along one edge of the first expanse of cover material, and an elongated strip of stiff material that defines therethrough an elongated document receiving slot bounded

about its entire perimeter by the structure of the material forming the elongated document retaining strip. The document receiving slot delineates the document retaining strip into an elongated document retaining bar, and an attachment margin by which the document retaining strip is secured to the covers, and a structure that closes both ends of the slot and joins the document retaining bar to the attachment margin of the document retaining strip.

The second component element of the holder of the invention is formed of a second broad expanse of cover material, a second narrow attachment region extending along the second expanse of cover material, and a second hinge connection between the second expanse of cover material and the second attachment region. The first and second narrow attachment regions reside in overlapping, face-to-face relationship to each other. The first and second components are firmly secured together at their attachment regions so that the first and second broad expanses of cover material form front and back folder covers with the document retaining strip enclosed therebetween.

The first and second component members may be formed of soft, flexible materials, such as thin card stock or flexible polypropylene plastic. Preferably, however, at least the expanses of cover material forming the front and back covers and the portion of the first component forming the document retaining strip are relatively stiff in nature.

The first and second document holder components are attached together along their overlapping attachment regions by any suitable means. In one preferred embodiment of the invention a layer of adhesive in interposed between the first and second attachment regions of the first and second components, respectively. The second attachment region of the second component resides on the outside of the first attachment region of the first component so that the retaining strip is held between the front and back covers. The hinge on the first component allows the document retaining strip to be folded either against the inside of the back cover, against the inside of the front cover, or to any intermediate position therebetween. The second hinge on the second component permits the front and back covers to be easily opened and closed relative to each other.

In an alternative embodiment of the invention the first and second components are formed of a fusible material such as polypropylene plastic, polyethylene plastic, or polyvinyl chloride plastic. The first and second component members are then permanently joined together, typically by applying heat thereto, along the narrow first and second attachment regions of the first and second component members, respectively. The heat thus applied creates an elongated weld that extends parallel to the spine of the folder and parallel to the document retaining strip.

In still another alternative embodiment, the first and second components are formed of materials that are fusible together by solvent welding, such as polypropylene plastic. A liquid solvent is applied lengthwise to one or both of the facing surfaces of the attachment regions of the two components. The solvent partially dissolves the surfaces of the facing attachment regions so that when these surfaces are pressed together they become permanently joined to each other when the solvent dries.

Still other embodiments of the invention are possible in which the first and second attachment regions are joined to each other by other fastening means, such as staples, pronged fasteners, or rivets.

To utilize the document holder of the invention once the component members have been joined together, a soft,

bound document, such as a magazine, is opened, preferably to its center pages. Half of the pages are then inserted through the document slot so that the first half of the soft document resides on one side of the retaining bar facing the front cover while the last half of the document resides on the other side of the retaining bar facing the back cover.

In one broad aspect the present invention may be considered to be a holder for a soft-covered document having a plurality of pages comprising first and second components. The first component is formed of a first document cover in a pair of document covers; a first attachment strip along an edge of the first document cover; a flat, elongated document retaining strip defining therethrough an elongated document slot bounded about its entire perimeter by the structure of the first component. The slot receives some of the pages of the document therethrough such that they reside on one side of the document retaining strip while the remainder of the pages reside on the other side of the document retaining strip. The first component also defines a first elongated hinge. The first hinge secures the first attachment strip to the document retaining strip.

The second component is formed of a second document cover in the pair of documents covers, a second attachment strip along an edge of the second document cover, and a second elongated hinge that secures the second attachment strip to the second cover. The first and second attachment strips reside in mutually overlapping or juxtaposed relationship. The holder is further comprised of some fastening means that joins the first and second attachment strips together throughout their lengths. The second hinge permits relative rotational movement between the first and second covers and the first hinge permits rotational movement of the document retaining strip relative to both the first and second covers.

In another broad aspect the invention may be considered to be, in combination, a folder formed with front and back covers, each having an inside and an exterior surface; an elongated holder for soft documents having a plurality of pages including a flat member defining entirely within its structure a narrow, elongated document slot that delineates an elongated document retaining bar and an attachment margin wherein the retaining bar and the attachment margin are joined together at opposite, longitudinally separated ends. A first elongated hinge joins the attachment margin of the elongated document holder to a first of the front and back covers. The elongated holder, the first hinge, and the first of the covers are all formed as regions of a first structural component.

The combination also includes a second elongated hinge that has an attachment leaf that secures a second of the front and back covers to the first of the front and back covers, thereby permitting relative rotational movement between the front and back covers. The second hinge and the second cover are all formed as parts of a second component. Some means, such as adhesive, a solvent weld, or a thermal weld, for example, secures the first and second components together throughout their length such that the first hinge and the holder for soft documents resides between the front and back covers.

The hinge on the second component allows the covers to move in rotation relative to each other, while the hinge on the first component allows the soft document retaining strip to rotate freely between the covers. A soft document can thereby be mounted firmly but removably on the document retaining strip and protected between the front and back covers of the document holder.

In a preferred embodiment of the invention the front and back covers of the combination are structurally stiff, as is the elongated soft document holder. These elements should be stiffer than the hinges. To achieve these features the first and second components may be formed with relatively great thicknesses of material delineating the covers and soft document holders, and with thinner areas forming the attachment regions and hinges.

The invention may be illustrated with greater clarity and particularity by reference to the accompanying drawings.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. **1** is a perspective view of one preferred embodiment of the document holder of the invention.

FIG. **2** is a top plan view of the document holder of FIG. **1**.

FIG. **3** is a sectional elevational detail taken along the lines **3—3** of FIG. **2**.

FIG. **4** is a sectional elevational detail illustrating an alternative embodiment of the invention.

FIG. **5** is a top plan view illustrating another alternative embodiment of the invention.

FIG. **6** is a sectional elevational detail taken along the lines **6—6** of FIG. **5**.

FIG. **7** is an exploded perspective view of the components of another embodiment of the invention.

FIG. **8** is a transverse sectional view of an embodiment of the invention employing the components of FIG. **7**.

DESCRIPTION OF THE EMBODIMENTS

FIG. **1** illustrates a document holder **10** for holding a soft covered document that is indicted in phantom at **12** in FIG. **3**. The document holder **10** is comprised of a first component **14** and a second component **16**. In the embodiment of FIGS. **1–3** the components **14** and **16** are both formed of stiff card stock.

The first component member **14** is formed of a first broad expanse of cover material **18** configured in a generally rectangular shape, typically about eleven and three-quarter inches in length and nine and three-eighths inches in width. The broad expanse of cover material **18** serves as the back cover of the document holder **10** and defines a first, narrow attachment region **20** which is about three-quarters of an inch in width and which extends the entire length of the rectangular expanse **18** along its edge adjacent the spine of the folder **10**. Beyond the narrow attachment region **20** the first component member **14** also forms a flat, elongated document retaining strip **22**.

The first component **14** of the holder **10** may be formed of any material that is stiffer than the soft document to be retained within the holder **10**, such as the magazine **12** illustrated in phantom in FIG. **3**. The elongated document retaining strip **22** has opposing flat sides **46** and **48** and defines an elongated, narrow, document receiving slot **50** entirely therewithin. The slot **50** extends completely through the thickness of the document retaining strip **22** between the opposite flat sides **46** and **48** thereof. The slot **50** delineates an elongated document retaining bar **52** and a parallel, elongated attachment margin **54**. The retaining bar **52** and the attachment margin **54** are joined together at their opposite longitudinally separated ends so that the slot **50** is bounded about its entire perimeter by the structure of the document retaining strip **22**, and is defined entirely within the structure of the document retaining strip **22**. That is, the

slot **50** is an enclosed slot and is not open at either end. Its perimeter lies entirely within the structure of the retaining strip **22**.

The size of the slot **50** is selected so that it receives therethrough a substantial number of the pages of the magazine **12**. Preferably, the magazine **12** is opened at its center pages where the staples binding the sheets of the magazine pages together are typically visible. One-half of the pages of the magazine **12** are then inserted into the slot **50** and pulled therethrough until the binding **56** of the magazine **12** resides substantially within the slot **50**, as illustrated in FIG. **3**. The pages of the magazine **12** are thereby split into two sections **58** and **60**. The sections **58** and **60** preferably have an equal number of pages, whereby the innermost pages residing in contact with the structure of the holder member **22** on the opposite sides **46** and **48** thereof are formed by different portions of the same folded center sheet of the magazine **12**. This facilitates insertion of the magazine pages through the slot **50**.

The first component **14** further includes an elongated hinge **62**. The hinge **62** is formed as a lengthwise fold extending parallel to the length of the broad expanse of cover material **18**, parallel to the spine of the document holder **10**. One leaf of the hinge **62** is formed by the attachment margin **54** of the documents retaining strip **22**, while the other leaf of the hinge **62** is formed by the attachment region **20** that runs along the edge of the broad back cover expanse **18**.

The second component **16** is likewise constructed with a second broad expanse **66** of cover material similar to the first broad expanse **18** of the first component **14**. The second broad expanse **66** serves as the front cover of the folder **10**. The second component member **16** also includes a narrow attachment region **68** that extends along the second expanse of material **66** and is joined thereto by a second hinge **70**. The second hinge **70** forms a hinge connection between the second expanse of cover material **66** and the second attachment region **68**. The second attachment region **68** is formed as a narrow attachment strip that extends the length of the document folder **10** and which is substantially the same length as the first attachment region **20**. One leaf of the second hinge **70** is formed by the second broad expanse of front cover material **66**, while the opposite leaf of the hinge **70** is formed by the second narrow attachment region **68**.

The first narrow attachment region **20** and the second narrow attachment region **68** reside in overlapping, juxtaposed relationship to each other, as best depicted in FIG. **3**. As illustrated in that drawing figure, a layer of adhesive **72** is interposed between the facing surfaces of the first and second attachment regions **20** and **68**. The adhesive layer **72** extends substantially across the entire widths and lengths of both of the attachment regions **20** and **68**, and thereby joins the first component **14** and the second component **16** of the document folder **10** together.

The hinge **70** forms the spine of the document folder **10** and allows the front cover **66** and the back cover **18** of the document folder **10** to move in folding rotation relative to each other. The first hinge **62** between the attachment margin **54** and the back cover **18** allows the document retaining strip **22** to be rotated toward the back cover **18** or the front cover **66** as desired. As a result, the flat, stiff document retaining strip **22** can be freely swung either toward the front cover **66**, or toward the back cover **18** of the folder **10**. This allows other papers to be inserted into the folder **10** on either side of the document retaining strip **22** and to be easily accessible by merely rotating the document retaining strip **22** along its hinge fold line **62** to carry the magazine **12** out of the way.

Different types of fastening systems may be utilized to join the attachment region **20** of the first component **14** and the attachment region **68** of the second component **16**. In embodiments of the system in which the hinge **70** is formed of a linear crease in paper stock, this fastening connection is preferably achieved by coating the underside of the attachment region **68** with a layer of pressure-sensitive adhesive **72** throughout its length and width. The underside of the attachment region **20** may thereupon be firmly pressed against the top side of the attachment region **68** of the second component **16** to permanently secure the first and second components **14** and **16** together. If necessary, the interconnection between the first and second components **14** and **16** may be augmented by the use of staples, rivets, or pronged fasteners through the attachment regions **20** and **68**.

FIG. **4** illustrates an alternative embodiment of a holder **80** for soft-covered documents. Both the first component **82** and the second component **84** are formed of plastic sheets that are capable of being fused together. For example, the first and second components **82** and **84** may be formed from sheets of polyvinyl chloride, polypropylene, or polyethylene plastic.

As in the embodiment of FIGS. **1–3**, the document holder **80** is formed of a pair of covers, namely a front cover **66** and back cover **18**, between which a soft-cover document is enclosed. The pair of covers **66** and **18** and the document retaining strip **22** are formed as stiffened parts of the first and second components **82** and **84**. In the embodiment of FIG. **4** the first component **82** forms the front cover **66** while the second component **84** forms the back cover **18** of the document holder **80**. The first component **82** has a first attachment strip **20** that extends along an edge of the front document cover **66**. Both the first component **82** and the second component **84** are formed of stiff, plastic sheets having a uniform thickness throughout except at necked down areas that form the first and second hinges **62** and **70**, respectively. The first component **82**, like the first component **14** of the embodiment of FIGS. **1–3**, forms a flat, elongated document retaining strip **22** having the construction described in connection with FIGS. **1–3**. The second component **84** which forms the back cover **18** of the holder **80** has a second attachment strip **68** that extends along an edge of the back document cover **18** and which forms an attachment leaf of the hinge **70**. The back cover **18** forms the other leaf of the hinge **70**.

In the embodiment of FIG. **4** the first and second components **82** and **84** are not secured to each other by adhesive. Rather, the first attachment strip **20** of the first holder component **82** and the second attachment strip **68** of the second holder component **84** are fusion welded or solvent welded together throughout their interface **86** of mutual contact. Whether fusion welded or solvent welding is employed, the first and second attachment strips **20** and **68** are permanently fused together in a mutually overlapping relationship. The melted interface **86** where areas of the first and second attachment strips **20** and **68** are fused together forms the fastening means that joins the first and second attachment strips **20** and **68** together throughout their lengths.

The first component **82** has a longitudinal, linear region of reduced thickness that delineates the document retaining strip **22** from the first attachment region **20** of the first component **18**. The region of reduced thickness thereby serves as the hinge **62** between the document retaining strip **22** and the front and back covers **66** and **18** of the document holder **80**.

Similarly, the linear, longitudinal reduction in thickness of the plastic sheet of which the second component **84** is

constructed delineates the second attachment region **68** from the back cover **18** and serves as the second hinge **70**. Hinges formed in this manner by delineating linear reductions in thickness between two segments of a plastic article are sometimes referred to as "living" hinges. As in the embodiment of FIGS. **1–3**, the second hinge **70** permits relative rotation movement between the front cover **66** and the back cover **18**, while the first hinge **62** permits rotational movement of the document retaining strip **22** relative to both the front cover **66** and the back cover **18**.

FIGS. **5** and **6** illustrate an another embodiment of a document holder constructed according to the invention. FIG. **5** illustrates a folder **92** formed with a front cover **94** and a back cover **96** having interior surfaces **98** and **100** and exterior surfaces **102** and **104**, respectively. The folder **92** also includes an elongated holder **106** for soft documents, such as the magazine **12** having a plurality of pages. The elongated holder **106** includes a member **108** that defines entirely within its structure a narrow, elongated slot **110** that delineates an elongated document retaining bar **112** and an attachment margin **114**. The attachment margin **114** and the retaining bar **112** are joined together at opposite longitudinally-separated ends by end connecting bridges **118** and **120**, which fold along a common axis **122**, shown in FIG. **5**. The connecting bridges **118** and **120** form a first elongated hinge that joins the retaining bar **112** to the back cover **96**. The elongated holder **106**, the first hinge formed by the bridges **118** and **120**, the attachment margin **114**, and the back cover **96** are all formed as regions of a first structural component of the folder **92**.

A second elongated hinge **124** has an attachment leaf **126** that secures the front cover **94** to the back cover **96**. The second elongated hinge **124** may be formed as an area of reduced thickness between the front cover **94** and the attachment leaf **126** and permits relative rotational movement between the front cover **94** and the back cover **96**. The second hinge **124**, the attachment leaf **126** and the front cover **94** are all formed as parts of a second component of the folder **92**. An adhesive layer **130** secures the first and second components of the folder **92** together throughout their lengths such that the first hinge formed by the folding of the bridges **118** and **120** along the axis **122** resides between the front cover **94** and the back **96**.

The embodiment of FIGS. **5** and **6** differs from that of FIGS. **2** and **3** primarily in that the hinge connecting the retaining bar **112** of the member **108** to the cover to which it is attached, which is the back cover **96**, resides entirely within the structure of the member **108**, rather than between the elongated document holder and the cover to which it is attached.

FIGS. **7** and **8** illustrate another alternative embodiment of a holder **131** for a soft covered document. The holder **131** is advantageous in that it is formed of two identical die cut sections **132** and **134**.

The holder **131** is formed of a first component **132** forming a first document cover, namely the top cover **136**, in a pair of documents covers **136** and **137**. Together the front document cover **136** and the back document cover **137** cover a soft document, such as a magazine **12** having a plurality of pages therein, indicated in phantom in FIG. **8**.

The first component **132** has a first attachment strip **138** proximate an edge **140** of the front cover **136**. The edge **140** is defined with a line of weakness thereon so as to aid in creating a spine for the holder **131**. The first component **132** also defines a flat, elongated document retaining strip **142** located proximate the attachment strip **138**. In fact the document retaining strip **142** and the attachment strip **138** are both parts of a single flap delineated by a binding fold line **143**. The document retaining strip **142** and the attachment strip **138** define therebetween an elongated document slot **144** bounded about its entire perimeter by the structure of the first component **132**. The slot **144** receives some of the pages of the document **12** therethrough such that they reside on one side of the document retaining strip **142**, while the remainder of the pages reside on the other side of the document retaining strip **142**. A first elongated hinge formed along the folded edge **140**, as depicted in FIG. **8**, secures the first document cover **136** to the document retaining strip **142**.

The second component **134** is identical in structure to the first component **132**, so that a single die can be used to form the entire holder **131**. The second component **134** forms the second, namely the back document cover **137** in the pair of document covers **136** and **137**. The second component **134** also forms a second attachment strip **138'** proximate an edge of the back document cover **137**. A second elongated hinge, formed by a fold along the line of weakness **140'** is defined on the second component **134**. The second elongated hinge **140'** secures the second attachment strip **138'** to the back cover **137**. Like the first component **132**, the second component **134** has a document retaining strip **142'**, which together with the second attachment strip **138'**, defines an elongated slot **144'** entirely within the structure of the second component **134**. The first attachment strip **138** of the first component **132** and the second attachment strip **138'** of the second component **134** reside in mutually juxtiposed relationship, as depicted. The second component **134** also has a binding fold line **143'**.

Both of the attachment strips **138** and **138'** and also the corresponding document retaining strips **142** and **142'** are covered with adhesive indicated at **146** in FIG. **7**. The double layer of adhesive **146** joins the first and second attachment strips **138** and **138'** together throughout their lengths, as shown if FIG. **8**. Alternatively, however, the adhesive layers may cover only the attachment strips **138** and **138'**. Also, fasteners other than adhesive may be used to join the attachment strips **138** and **138'** together.

Undoubtedly, numerous other variations and modifications of the invention will become readily apparent to those familiar with office supply products. Alternative fastening means may be employed to those illustrated in the embodiments described. For example, staples, rivets, flexible fabric hook and loop fastening strips, pronged fasteners, and other conventional fastening means suitable for fastening mutually facing areas of flat stock together may be employed in place of the layer of adhesive and fused interface layer between the first and second attachment strips depicted in the embodiments illustrated. Accordingly, the scope of the invention should not be construed as limited to the specific embodiments depicted and described herein.

What is claimed is:

1. A holder for a soft-covered document having a plurality of pages comprising a first component member formed of a first broad expanse of cover material, a first narrow attachment region extending along one edge of said first expanse of cover material, and a flat, elongated document retaining strip defining therethrough an elongated document receiving slot bounded about its entire perimeter by the structure of said document retaining strip, said slot receiving some of said pages of said document therethrough such that they reside on one side of said strip while the remainder of said pages reside on the other side of said strip, and a first hinge connection between said first attachment region and said

document retaining strip, and a second component member formed of a second broad expanse of cover material and a second narrow attachment region extending along said second expanse of cover material and a second hinge connection between said second expanse of cover material and said second attachment region, and wherein said first and second narrow attachment regions reside in overlapping relationship to each other, and wherein said first and second components are firmly secured together at said attachment regions so that said first and second broad expanses of cover material form front and back folder covers with said document retaining strip enclosed therebetween.

2. A holder according to claim **1** further comprising a layer of adhesive interposed between and joining together said first and second attachment regions.

3. A holder according to claim **1** wherein said first and second components are comprised of a fusible material and said fusible material of each of said components is fused together along said attachment regions.

4. A holder according to claim **1** wherein said broad expanses of cover material and said document retaining strip are stiff and said hinge connections are formed by lines of reduced thickness in said first and second components.

5. A holder according to claim **4** wherein said first and second components are comprised of sheets of polypropylene plastic.

6. A holder for a soft-covered document comprising:

a first component forming a first document cover in a pair of document covers for covering a soft document having a plurality of pages therein, a first attachment strip proximate an edge of said first document cover, a flat, elongated document retaining strip proximate said first attachment strip and defining an elongated document slot bounded about its entire perimeter by structure of said first component, said slot receiving some of said pages of said document therethrough such that they reside on one side of said document retaining strip while the remainder of said pages reside on the other side of said document retaining strip, and a first elongated hinge that secures said first document cover to said document retaining strip,

a second component forming a second document cover in said pair of document covers, a second attachment strip proximate an edge of said second document cover, and a second elongated hinge that secures said second attachment strip to said second cover, and wherein said first and second attachment strips reside in mutually juxtaposed relationship, and

a fastening means that joins said first and second attachment strips together throughout their lengths.

7. A holder according to claim **6** wherein said fastening means is comprised of a layer of adhesive extending between said attachment strips so as to adhesively secure said attachment strips to each other.

8. A holder according to claim **6** wherein said first and second components are comprised of fusible plastic and said fastening means is comprised of areas on said attachment strips that are fused together.

9. A holder according to claim **6** wherein said pair of covers and said document retaining strip are formed as stiffened parts of said first and second components.

10. In combination, a folder formed with front and back covers each having an inside and an exterior surface, an elongated holder for soft documents having a plurality of pages including a member defining entirely within its structure a narrow, elongated document slot that delineates an elongated document retaining bar and an attachment margin wherein said retaining bar and said attachment margin are joined together at opposite longitudinally separated ends, and further comprising a first elongated hinge that joins said retaining bar of said elongated holder to a first of said front and back covers, and wherein said elongated holder, said first hinge and said first of said covers are all formed as regions of a first structural component, and further comprising a second elongated hinge that has an attachment leaf that secures a second of said front and back covers to said first of said front and back covers, thereby permitting relative rotational movement between said front and back covers, and wherein said second hinge and said second cover are all formed as parts of a second component, and further comprising means for securing said first and second components together throughout their lengths such that said first hinge resides between said front and back covers.

11. A combination according to claim **10** wherein said means for securing said first and second components together is comprised of portions of said attachment leaf of said second hinge and said first component that are fused together.

12. A combination according to claim **10** wherein said means for securing said first and second components together is comprised of a layer of adhesive interposed therebetween.

13. A combination according to claim **10** wherein said first and second components are formed of plastic.

14. A combination according to claim **10** wherein said front and back covers and said elongated holder are all structurally stiff.

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